

Message Text

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63

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/104 W

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R 191919Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8250

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDEL MTN GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UK

SUBJECT: NEW CALL FOR IMPORT CONTROLS

REF: LONDON 19590

1. LABOR PARTY GENERAL SECRETARY RON HAYWARD HAS
RENEWED DEMANDS ON THE GOVERNMENT FOR WIDE RANGING
IMPORT CONTROLS, BUT THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE
GOVERNMENT PLANS TO TAKE ANY ACTION BEYOND ITS VERY
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MODEST PROGRAM ANNOUNCED IN DECEMBER.

2. IN A JANUARY 16 STATEMENT CONSISTENT WITH LABOUR PARTY POLICY DECISIONS OF LAST OCTOBER' HAYWARD CALLED FOR THE IMPOSITION OF A 15 PER CENT SURCHARGE ON TWO-THIRDS OF MANUFACTURED AND SEMI-MANUFACTURED IMPORTS IN ORDER TO SAVE 300.000 JOBS. HE LABELLED THE GOVERNMENT'S IMPORT CURBS AS OF "LITTLE VALUE" AND AGAIN REJECTED THE ARGUMENT THAT MASSIVE RETALIATION WOULD FOLLOW FROM BPITAIN'S TRADING PARTNERS. IN LATER PRIVATE CONVEPSATION WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS, HAYWARD SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT BEEN HAPPY WITH HIS STATEMENT BUT HE HAD TO DO IT BECAUSE OF HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO SUPPORT LABOUR PARTY POLICIES.

3. COMMENT. HAYWARD'S STATEMENT BREAKS THE RELATIVE QUIET THAT HAS RECENTLY CHARACTERIZED THE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS FRONT, UT THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT HE IS DOING ANYTHING MORE THAN KEEPING THE ISSUE ALIVE AND MAKING A RECORD FOR FUTURE BATTLES. WE HAVE NO EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT CHANCELLOR HEALEY OR TRADE MINISTER SHORE HAVE SOFTENED THEIR OPPOSITION TO IMPORT CONTROLS.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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